REMARKS

Claims 18, 19 and 21-23 are all the claims pending in the application. Claims 18 and 19 are withdrawn from consideration as being drawn to a non-elected invention.

Claims 21-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,433,882 to Mori et al. (hereinafter "Mori") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,359,696 to Hori et al. (hereinafter "Hori"). Applicant respectfully traverses these grounds of rejection in view of the following comments.

Claims 21, 22, and 23, *inter alia* and in some variation recite: "storing a plurality of subfiles each generated by dividing print data into packets, a command file which stores a group of commands which control a printer, including a cancel command to stop printing, and a spool file which includes information for specifying the subfile and information for specifying the command file in a storage device; detecting whether the command file specified by the information for specifying the command file stored in the spool file has been updated or not every time the subfile is read."

In an exemplary, non-limiting embodiment, the system processes commands during printing. More specifically, in order to promptly process a print canceling command or the like given during processing of the print data, the control command is to be recorded in a print controlling command file which is different from a subfile which stores print data. The subfiles are generated by dividing the data into packets. Further, the print data itself is not stored in the spool file, information for specifying the subfile (which stored print data) and command files are only stored in the spool file. The print processor monitors the print controlling command file. When the print processor detects *e.g.*, by an increase in file size of the print controlling command

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file, that the print controlling command file has been updated, the processor reads the print

controlling command file. Furthermore, when a print cancellation instruction is added to the

print control command file as a result of the reading, transfer of packets to the printer is stopped

and a page ending command and a job ending command is transmitted to the printer to end the

printing. It will be appreciated that the foregoing remarks relate to the invention in a general

sense, the remarks are not necessarily limitative of any claims and are intended only to help the

Examiner better understand the distinguishing aspects of the claims mentioned above.

The Examiner alleges that Mori discloses a method where print data is divided into

subfiles (EMS files in Mori) and they are read out by a spool file (*see* page 2 of the Office

Action). However, in Mori, the EMF file stores print data which is divided into each page.

Then, a spooler reconstructs print data and stores it in the spool file. In other words, in Mori the

EMF file is not generated by dividing the data into packets. Furthermore, Mori fails to disclose

or suggest the print data itself not being stored in the EMS file but stored separately in subfiles.

Mori does not disclose or suggest not storing the print data in the EMS file and storing only the

information for specifying the subfiles (which stores print data) and command files in a spool

file.

Similarly, Hori only discloses a method of canceling printing on page basis. In other

words, Hori does not disclose subfiles being configured on packet basis, *i.e.*, making a

cancellation on packet basis. Further, since the update of the cancel command is detected every

time the subfile is read, the cancel operation can be performed promptly.

Entry and consideration of this Amendment are respectfully requested.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114(c)
U.S. Appln. No. 09/826,308
Attorney Docket No.: Q63977

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed

to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the

Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is

kindly invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue

Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any

overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC   Nataliya Dvorson
Telephone: (202) 293-7060   Registration No. 56,616
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

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CUSTOMER NUMBER

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